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Har Homa bulldozing faces delay

By DAVID MAKI JYSKY

There are indications that bulldozers will not begin digging at Jerusalem's Har Homa this week, though surveyors will begin work in the area and the paving of an access road will begin on Tuesday, cabinet-level sources said.

The decision to delay earthwork on Har Homa, which Palestinians have said could trigger a hostile reaction, is apparently not due to political factors but to technical difficulties. The source said the bulldozers are likely to begin work next week.

Despite Palestinian threats of potential violence, no one at Friday's cabinet meeting called for the project to be delayed. Ministers felt that if the project is stopped, Israel would face pressure from Palestinians on a whole range of issues.

During the course of the meeting, sources said, General Security Service head Ami Ayalon said Palestinian violence is definitely possible once construction begins, but said the GSS has no warnings about anything specific.

Defense Minister Yitzhak

Mordechai said he does not believe there will be violence. Nonetheless, the cabinet approved plans for military reinforcements in the event of emergency.

At the Friday meeting, both Ayalon and OC Intelligence Maj. Gen. Moshe Ya'alon said that Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat is straddling the fence on the issue of violence: He has not called for violence, but he has not called on the Palestinians to refrain from it, either.

According to the intelligence officials, Arafat feels this stance gives him the most maneuvering room. But they said they are convinced that if Arafat does not want violence, it will not occur.

Ayalon praised Arafat for preventing a "few" terror attacks recently, but did not give details. At the same time, Ayalon voiced concern about increased political contacts between Arafat and members of the Palestinian opposition.

At the start of the cabinet meeting, participants observed a moment of silence for the seven schoolgirls who were killed at Naharayim.



President Ezer Weizman is wheeled into Jerusalem's Hadassah-University Hospital in Ein Kerem on Friday, after breaking his wrist and hip while getting out of a helicopter. (AP)

Hussein on condolence visit today

By DAVID MAKOVSKY and news agencies

Jordan's King Hussein is to make a nine-hour visit here today, which will include condolence calls on the families of the seven schoolgirls who were shot dead by a Jordanian soldier in Naharayim on Thursday.

Hussein will also hold talks in Jerusalem with Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Ezer Weizman. The last time Hussein was in Jerusalem was for prime minister Yitzhak Rabin's funeral in November 1995.

Netanyahu and Hussein are expected to meet alone for one hour this afternoon at the Prime Minister's Office, Netanyahu's aides said.

There was hope in Jerusalem last night that the visit, while humanitarian in nature, would enable both men to address their differences and improve bilateral ties. Early last week Hussein sent Netanyahu a harsh letter charging that the premier no longer seemed committed to peace.

"Israel and Jordan have had long-term mutual interests, which continue despite the ups and downs in the peace process," said Netanyahu foreign policy adviser Dore Gold. "It is necessary to figure out how to protect this relationship from the inevitable difficulties as the issues of the negotiations become more difficult."

Jordanian officials declined to comment last night.

The monarch, who will be accompanied by two of his grown children, Prince Faisal and Princess Aisha, and the head of the royal court, Awn Kahasawneh, will arrive at Ben-Gurion Airport around noon. Hussein will be greeted by Netanyahu, who will accompany the king throughout his stay.

According to the schedule issued last night, Hussein is to visit the bereaved families in Beit Shemesh, where he is expected to spend close to three hours.

Afterwards, he is to proceed to Hadassah-University Hospital in

Jerusalem's Ein Kerem section to visit a girl pupil and teacher wounded in the attack, and to see Weizman, who underwent surgery on Friday after a fall. After visiting Weizman, Hussein and Netanyahu are to go to the premier's office and then the King David Hotel, where they will hold a joint press conference.

It is expected that Hussein will condemn Israel's plans to move ahead on the construction of

Fuerst school hopes for royal visit, Page 2

Jewish housing in Jerusalem's Har Homa.

Afterwards, the two leaders are to have what officials characterize as a working dinner and be joined by several members of the cabinet. The visit is being called "Operation Warm Feeling." Some 3,000 policemen are to be deployed to protect Hussein. Traffic is expected to be snarled in Jerusalem for much of the day, and traffic on the Tel Aviv-Jerusalem highway will be forbidden around the times of the king's arrival and departure.

Brig.-Gen. (res.) Yigal Pressler, until recently the prime minister's adviser on terrorism, was named Friday by Education Minister Zevulun Hammer to head the ministry's inquiry into the Naharayim massacre. Others on the committee are former ministry director-general Dr. Dan Sharon and Aharon Bletchinsky, director of the ministry's Jerusalem district.

The Pressler Commission is to examine various aspects of the ill-fated excursion that are connected with the ministry, from the approval of its original route up to the attack on the schoolgirls.

In Jordan, meanwhile, King Hussein on Friday launched an inquiry into the attacker's motives, appointing Mohammed Kailani, a veteran security chief

Continued on Page 4

Arafat: Peace process near breakdown

Gaza forum uneventful

By JON IMMANUEL

Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat chaired a forum of foreign diplomats in Gaza yesterday aimed at "saving the peace process" in the face of actions by Israel which, he said, will destroy it.

In the growing atmosphere of tension underlined by the slaughter of seven Beit Shemesh schoolgirls Thursday by a Jordanian soldier, Arafat said he is opposed to terrorism. But, he added, "as we have already said, while peace and terrorism can't go hand in hand, nor can peace and settlements." He could not, he said, predict the actions of the Palestinian people.

Arafat's aides were more blunt. "I think the peace process is finished with this government," PA cabinet secretary Ahmed Abdel-Rahman said. "The Israeli government is ignoring its own security services' warnings of violence if they send bulldozers to Har Homa." Netanyahu's statements, his ministers' statements, destroy peace and if there is no peace there will be war.

Ahmed-Rahman said he hopes today's condolence visit by King



Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat adjusts his glasses while addressing foreign diplomats in his Gaza office yesterday. (Reuters)

Hussein will cause a change of heart in Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu "at the eleventh hour," as Hussein's intervention helped seal an agreement on Hebron two months ago. Diplomats from the US, Russia, the European Union, the UN, Japan, Norway, Egypt and Jordan attended the meeting in Arafat's office. The French consul in Jerusalem represented the EU, the US was represented by its new Middle East coordinator and Norway sent its roving envoy to the Middle East.

Arafat said the government had reneged on agreements with the previous Labor government concerning settlements and Jerusalem, with the decision to build on Har Homa the most blatant and most serious example.

He noted that the Labor government had frozen plans to build on Har Homa - while it built in other parts of Jerusalem and Ma'aleh Adumim - because it understood how serious construction there would be.

Netanyahu's plan, Arafat said,

Weizman satisfactory after hip surgery

By BATSHEVA TSUR and JUDY SIEGEL

President Ezer Weizman was in satisfactory condition at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem last night, after undergoing an operation on Friday for a fractured left hip and arm. He is expected to be released on Wednesday.

Jordan's King Hussein is due to visit the president at the hospital this afternoon.

Weizman tripped Friday as he descended from the helicopter which took him back to his Caesarea home from Poriya Hospital near Tiberias, where he visited some of the schoolgirls wounded in the Naharayim massacre.

"I believe my coat caught in something," Weizman told reporters. "I tried to break the fall and landed on my left side."

"It must be contagious," Weizman joked, noting that US President Bill Clinton had torn a tendon in his right knee at approximately the same time and that Sara Netanyahu, the prime minister's wife, had twisted her ankle.

The president was taken immediately to the nearby Hillel Yoffe Hospital in Hadera, accompanied by his wife, Reuma, but shortly afterwards he was

transferred by helicopter to Hadassah in order to be closer to his office in Jerusalem.

Orthopedists at Hadassah said they hope Weizman can be discharged later this week. On Friday, he underwent a two-hour operation under spinal anesthesia to set his left thigh bone.

Dr. Iri Leibergal, a senior orthopedist who performed the surgery along with department head Prof. David Segal, affixed the fractured bone together with metal pins. They did not need to change the hip joint. The limb was bandaged, and because of the pins, the president did not need a cast. He was already able to step down on his left leg yesterday.

Surgery was not needed on the fractured bone in his left hand, which was put in a cast, Leibergal said.

After a few days' recovery in the hospital, Weizman will need a few weeks' rest, and although his mobility will be limited during this time, he will be able to get around with a walker or cane.

Last night, he was visited by Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu, Knesset Speaker Dan Tichoo, Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, and Health Minister Yehoshua Matza.

February CPI jumps 1.2%

By DAVID HARRIS

The consumer price index shot up by 1.2 percent last month, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced Friday. It is the first time the index has risen by more than 1% since May 1996.

The key factors were rises in housing prices and a 12.3% increase in the cost of fruits and vegetables.

While the general rise in prices is considerably higher than expected, Central Bureau of Statistics spokesman David Neumann warned against undue alarm. The January CPI was up

only 0.4%, making a combined 1.6% increase for the first two months. This, Neumann said, must be compared to the 1.8% increase during the same period last year.

Housing prices rose by an overall 1.4%, largely because of the 1.8% increase in the dollar exchange rate. The cost of purchasing a property rose some 1.4%, with rentals going up by 1.8%.

The fruit and vegetables index rose 12.3%, which the CBS put down to seasonal factors. Fresh vegetables became more expensive by 26.4% and fresh fruits by 5.7%. Eggplant rose in price by

92.9%, zucchini by 66.9% and cucumbers by 57.1%. Frozen products increased by far smaller amounts.

Food prices, excluding fruit and vegetables, rose by 0.8%; ice cream was up 3.6%; poultry, 2.9%; and confectioneries, 1.6%. Household furniture and equipment increased by 1.2%. Health care became more expensive by 0.5%.

On the other hand, clothing and footwear prices fell 3.5% in February, mainly due to end-of-season sales. Clothing was 3.7% cheaper, with footwear down 2.6%.

LIBI
The Fund for Strengthening Israel's Defense

Esterina Giron recently died at the age of 87, leaving 5 million shekels to the State of Israel. Most of the sum went to the LIBI Fund, for the building of a Center for the Study of Hebrew for Immigrant Soldiers, located at the Education Corps' base in the Galilee. The Center is named for her and her late husband, Israel Giron.

Esterina Giron and her husband, who came to live in Israel in 1970, left no children.

The above photo was taken at the dedication ceremony of the center. From left to right: Lieut.-Col. Devorah Pinot, LIBI Fund; the Administrator-General, Attn. Shmuel Tzur; Col. Meir Blayer, Commander of the LIBI Fund; Chief Education and Youth Corps Officer, Brig.-Gen. Avrahami Asahel; Shoshana Kaban of the Administrator-General's Office.

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Continued on Page 4

مكتبة الاصل

Our beloved
DALIAH MOST
 has left us.

The funeral will take place at Kiryat Shaul Cemetery today,
 Sunday, March 16, 1997 at 3 p.m.


The family is sitting shiva at home, Rav Ashi 8, Neveh Avivim.

Burton Most, Oren and Tova Most, Tamar and Yossi Unger
 Netta, Omer, Carmel, Eilnore, Guy

Our beloved
GUNTHER SACHS
 is no longer with us.


Wife: Gerda Sachs
 Daughters: Ruthy and Reuven Bronstein
 and family,
 Nurlit and Eli Nitzan and family
 Sister: Dalia Grossman and family

For funeral details call: 02-566-5183, 02-563-1980


HADASSAH MEDICAL ORGANIZATION
 mourns the loss of our
Prof. KALMAN YA'ACOV MANN
 former director-general of Hadassah Medical Organization
 pioneer of health care administration and public health in Israel
 visionary and pragmatist,
 and extends heartfelt condolences to the family.

The funeral will leave from the Hadassah-University Hospital on Mt. Scopus for
 Sanhedria Cemetery today, Sunday, March 16, at 2 p.m.
 From 12 until 2 it is possible to pay last respects at Hadassah on Mt. Scopus.

Director-General and employees


HADASSAH, THE WOMEN'S ZIONIST ORGANIZATION OF AMERICA
HADASSAH INTERNATIONAL
HADASSAH FAMILY IN ISRAEL
 mourn the loss of our beloved
Prof. KALMAN YA'ACOV MANN
 former director-general of Hadassah Medical Organization
 who devoted his life to public service, builder of Hadassah Ein Kerem
 rebuilder of Hadassah Mt. Scopus
 educator and teacher
 Israel Prize laureate
 and extend heartfelt condolences to the family.

The National President
 The Past Presidents
 The National Board
 and the Members of Hadassah

We deeply mourn the passing of our beloved
Prof. KALMAN JACOB MANN **של**

My husband, our father, brother and grandfather.
 Friends may pay their respects today, Sunday, March 16, 1997 at the Hadassah-University
 Hospital on Mount Scopus between 12:00-2:00 p.m.

At 2:00 p.m. the funeral will leave the hospital and proceed to the Sanhedria Cemetery.

Bluma Mann
 Ruth and Zvi Feine
 Gideon and Ayala Mann
 Jonathan and Tova Mann
 Naomi and Eitan Arnon
 The grandchildren

Leah Grinblat and family
 Rachel Kahanoff and family
 and Families:
 Mann
 Weisberg
 Chill

The family will sit shiva at his residence, Rehov Eliezer Halevi 18, Kiryat Moshe, Jerusalem

Fuerst school waits for king

By ELIJAH WOHLGELER

If King Hussein visits the AMIT Fuerst school in Beit Shemesh today, he will be respectfully welcomed by the administration; but will he be rejected by the parents, by the students?

"I hope not, I hope not," said Moti Farber, principal of the school's junior high school grades, but added: "I don't want to speak for people who have suffered. I don't have the right to tell anybody not to be angry."

Farber said that while in his view, "I'm not sure it's not a little soon" for Hussein to make

the visit, "I understand and appreciate the gesture he's trying to make."

For Farber, any kind gesture is welcome.

Since Thursday, he has been living with the hell of a school and community in pain and confusion, and he's been trying to help soothe the suffering felt by everyone.

At the school on Friday classes were optional, but many students came anyway, to talk to their friends, their classmates, their teachers.

"There was no extreme response," Farber said. "The kids were quiet, very respectful,

somewhat introverted. This isn't the stage where it's going to come out... I don't know when it's going to come out."

He said some of the pupils got emotional, but no one needed medical care, and a backup staff of psychologists and social workers were there on standby. The eighth-grade girls class had a psychologist talking to them all morning.

"A few kids were crying, but it wasn't hysterical, it was very quiet, an inner thing, not thousands of kids crying. Just sort of each one helping the other, being there for when someone needed them - if a kid was cry-

Hizbullah gunmen fire at IDF tank, SLA positions

By DAVID RUDGE

Fighting continued in the security zone over the weekend as Hizbullah kept up the pressure of attacks on IDF and South Lebanese Army targets.

There were no casualties among IDF or SLA troops in the incidents, which occurred on Friday afternoon in the zone's eastern and western sectors.

In one of the long-range clashes, gunmen opened fire with anti-tank missiles on an IDF tank in the Talousa region, in the zone's eastern sector.

Hizbullah claimed in a statement issued in Beirut that one of its newly revealed tank sniper units had hit an IDF tank with a missile during the fighting. There was no damage to the vehicle, however, and the members of its crew were unhurt.

Simultaneously, Hizbullah gunmen fired mortars at SLA positions nearby, while launching a separate long-range mortar attack on another SLA outpost in the Rashaf region, in the zone's western sector.

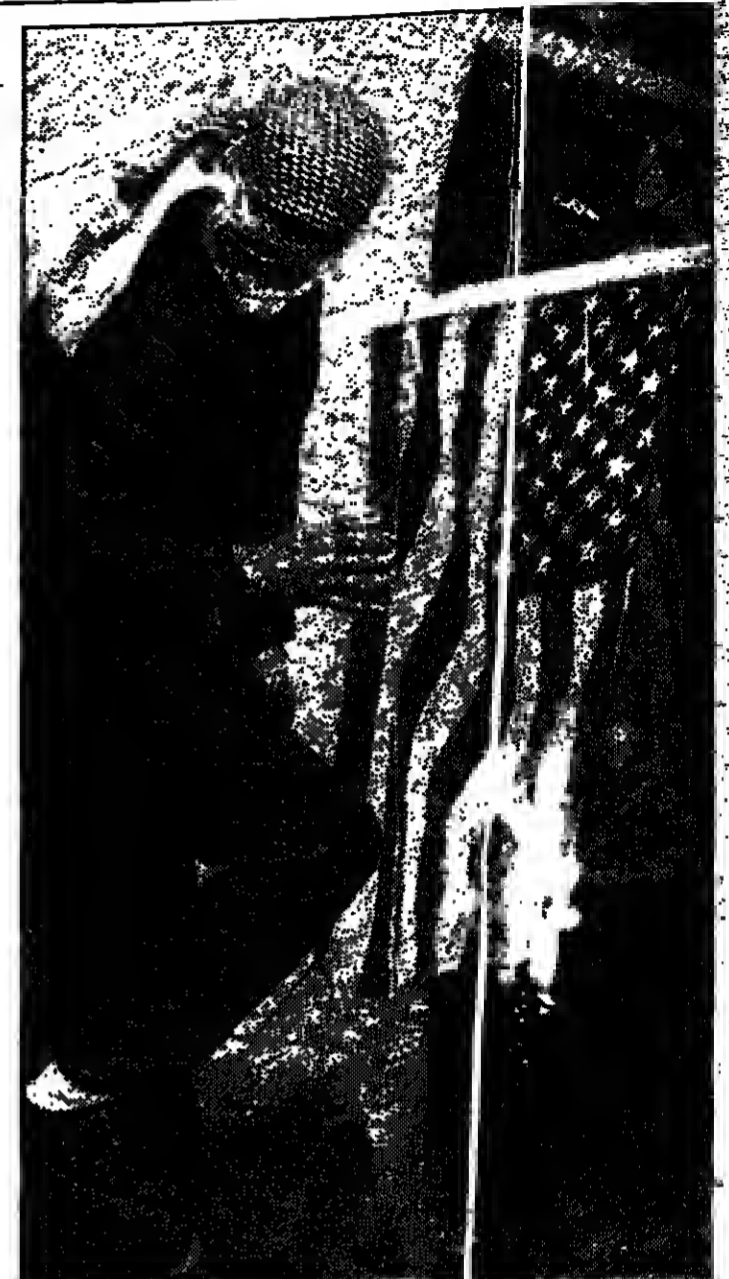
Reports from the zone said no damage was caused in any of the attacks and IDF and SLA gunners returned fire.

Meanwhile, late on Thursday night, the five-nation Grapes of Wrath monitoring committee concluded its deliberations into Israel's complaint over an abortive Hizbullah car bomb attack in the zone last Monday on the outskirts of Tel al-Kabah village - less than 500 meters from the border with Israel.

An IDF soldier was moderately wounded and two Lebanese civilians were lightly hurt when the perpetrator detonated the device prematurely and fled after being spotted.

The IDF Spokesman said in a statement that the monitoring group had accepted Israel's claim and determined that a car had exploded near an occupied house in the region of Huleh village, causing the casualties and damage to the property.

The committee, set up to supervise the understandings reached at the end of the Grapes of Wrath fighting last April, expressed regret over the incident's outcome. It called on the responsible parties to adhere to the understandings in full and ensure that no further attacks be launched in residential areas, and to refrain from endangering civilians or damaging property.




Palestinians protest Har Homa plans

Masked Palestinians burn an American flag during a demonstration in Nablus yesterday against plans to construct Jewish housing at Har Homa. An alliance of eight Moslem groups, including Islamic Jihad and Hamas, called on Palestinians to escalate attacks against Israel to block the construction. The Jerusalem Committee of the Organization of the Islamic Conference is to convene in Morocco on March 27 to discuss the Har Homa plans, Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak announced yesterday. (AP)

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 The friends of Yad Sarah in Israel and abroad The presidium and management The branch directors and volunteers


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Mendi Rodan, conductor
 Evgeny Evtushenko, narrator
 Anatoli Kotscherga, bass
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 directed by Pavel Kühn

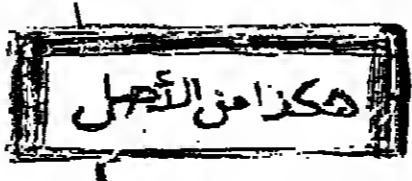
 

Programme:
 Beethoven: Symphony no. 2
 Shostakovich: Symphony no. 13, "Babi Yar"

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 Tue. 18.3.97, 8:30 p.m. Haifa, concert 6 series A
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Evacuation chaos in Albania



US Marines guard the US embassy in Tirana, Albania, yesterday during the evacuation of Americans from the city. (AP)

News agencies

TIRANA, Albania — Henci Beqiri said she cried as she left Albania, and like other Americans lifted to safety by US helicopters this weekend was stunned at how quickly the Balkan country had disintegrated.

The 26-year-old Beqiri had been working for Albanian television. With gunmen roaming the streets in recent days, she was taken in for protection by her neighbors, who escorted her to the US embassy to await the Chinook helicopters.

"I was crying. I am afraid for the people I left there," Beqiri said. "The ammunition has to run out sooner or later."

Among those evacuated was a South African woman shot in the shoulder when she was near the US embassy, Navy Cmdr. Henry Golden said.

The US evacuation in Tirana came under fire from the ground, said Marine Col. Emerson Gardner, commander of the operation. A Cobra helicopter gunship returned fire, officers said.

An Italian AB-212 helicopter was hit by gunfire early Friday during an evacuation mission, but no one aboard was injured, the Defense Ministry said in Rome. Italian aviators had reported gunfire Thursday night during the height of Italy's evacuation of around 1,000 foreign nationals.

"There are a lot of people with weapons and a lot of indiscriminate firing," said Gardner.

Some 169 Marines were sent into the US embassy in Tirana and a compound where diplomats live. The Nassau, a helicopter carrier, was part of a Marine amphibious unit stationed in the Adriatic.

"It's a bit unnerving all this fir-

ing going on," said Gardner. The chaos was even more intense in the port of Durres, where thousands of Albanians broke through police ranks yesterday in a desperate, failed attempt to escape the country on a Greek frigate evacuating Chinese and Iranian diplomats.

Police fired hundreds of warning shots into the air in an unsuccessful bid to hold the frenzied crowd back. The unarmed civilians threw rocks and stones at the police and finally evaded the security cordon by climbing over weapons and through a three-meter high wall at the port. By the time the stampede arrived the ship was steaming away.

"We have two options, either we take guns and kill these bastard police, or we get a boat out of here," one young Albanian told reporters.

OSCE: Send foreign troops to Albania

VIENNA (Reuter) — Ambassadors of Europe's top security body agreed yesterday to give broad support to sending foreign troops to Albania to halt anarchy in the Balkan state.

The 54-nation Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) backed a proposal by the OSCE's mediator in Albania Franz Vranitzky to ask foreign governments to send forces, but an individual state gave an explicit commitment to do so.

"If the international community does not accept this task today, it will have to handle it tomorrow, but the task will be bigger... and the bill will be more expensive," said ambassador Lars Vissing of Denmark, which holds the current chairmanship of the OSCE.

Vranitzky held talks aboard an Italian frigate in the Adriatic on Friday with leaders of the Albanian government and rebel forces from towns in the south. The former Austrian chancellor said he was told by the government that it could no longer control the spreading armed rebellion and wanted outside intervention to help restore order.

"There is an alternative (to foreign intervention) as far as I can see," Vranitzky said on Friday.

Vissing told reporters that ambassadors at yesterday's emergency session expressed broad agreement on three elements of Vranitzky's report — the need to restore order with a stabilization force; the need for international financial support; and the deployment of OSCE missions to help rebuild democratic institutions and prepare for early elections.

Danish Foreign Minister Niels Helveg Petersen told European

Union foreign ministers at a meeting in the Dutch town of Apeldoorn yesterday that he believed Albanian President Sali Berisha should step down to help end the current crisis.

The rebels accuse Berisha of corruption and of failing to put a stop to bogus pyramid schemes, in which many citizens poured their life savings. Their collapse ignited widespread unrest which has in the past two weeks deteriorated into chaos and anarchy.

Albanian ambassador to the OSCE Zef Mazri told reporters after the emergency session that the organization had an important role to play in ending the mayhem in Albania, but stressed it had no say in whether or not Berisha should resign.

He said he was encouraged by the amount of support shown by the OSCE for some form of foreign intervention in Albania. "There was a lot of political readiness, sympathy and solidarity expressed in the meeting this morning," Mazri said.

Vissing said he would hold bold meetings over the next few days with any potential contributors to Vranitzky's proposals and work closely with the EU and the Council of Europe to reach a speedy decision.

"We're working on this as fast as possible. It is a matter of extreme urgency," he said.

According to Vranitzky's report, Berisha, all political parties and rebel committees share the same goal — the restoration of order and democracy and the holding of fresh elections.

But one sticking point was likely to be Berisha's tenure of power. Rebel committees insist Berisha should go before there is any chance of a return to peace.

UN envoy arrives in rebel Zaire

GOMA, Zaire (Reuter) — United Nations envoy Mubammed Sahnoun arrived yesterday in the rebel-held eastern border town of Goma for talks with rebel leader Laurent Kabila aimed at ending the fighting in Zaire.

Sahnoun arrived in a motorcade at the lakeside palace used by Kabila. He made no comment to waiting reporters. Sahnoun, appointed by the UN Security Council and the Organization of African Unity (OAU), arrived in Goma from the Rwandan capital Kigali where he held talks with President Pasteur Bizimungu and Vice-President and military strongman Major-General Paul Kagame on the fighting in Zaire.

His brief involves brokering peace in Zaire, Africa's third largest country, and the Great Lakes region of Central Africa. On Thursday, Sahnoun met Kabila in Uganda at talks chaired by Ugandan President and regional powerbroker Yoweri Museveni.

But Kabila again refused pleas from Sahnoun to accept a ceasefire to pave the way for talks with Zaire's government.

Diplomats in the Ugandan capital Kampala said Museveni, a regional power broker accused by Zaire of backing Kabila's Alliance of Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Congo-

Zaire, facilitated the face-to-face meeting but did not take sides. Kabila, whose forces are advancing on Zaire's third-largest city of Kisangani, has accepted a UN peace plan as a basis for talks but rejected its call for a ceasefire.

The rebels say they want to overthrow Zaire's President Mobutu Sese Seko, who had surgery for prostate cancer last August and is now resting in France.

Kabila's rebels have made significant gains and a regional military source said yesterday they were advancing on the town of Pweto on Lake Tanganyika in the mineral-rich Shaba province. Kisangani, its jungle setting immortalized in Joseph Conrad's bleak novel *Heart of Darkness*, is a strategic prize for the rebels.

The nerve center of army operations in the warzone, it is perched strategically at the head of a major navigable stretch of the mighty Zaire River that flows west from there to the capital Kinshasa — some 1,500 km downstream.

A lack of passable roads through the sprawling Central African nation's jungle and bush makes the Zaire River and its many tributaries the principal arteries for internal and external trade.

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SUPER-SOL & HYPERCOL

WORLD in brief

No trace of survivors in Iran crash
TEHRAN (AP) - Search teams found parts of an Iranian military cargo plane that crashed in northeastern Iran...

Thou shalt steal from supermarkets
LONDON (AP) - A Church of England vicar created a stir yesterday by suggesting it was no sin to shoplift - as long as the victim is a big supermarket...

New AIDS drugs available for children
WASHINGTON (Reuter) - Two AIDS drugs were approved for use by children on Friday, the first specific drug for pediatric AIDS in the United States...

Egypt police identify massacre suspects
CAIRO (Reuter) - Egyptian police suspect three fugitive Muslim militants active in the south massacred 13 people after rampaging through a southern hamlet this week...

Russian jailed for trading in human flesh
MOSCOW (Reuter) - A Russian court sentenced a murderer who traded pieces of his victim's flesh as ordinary meat to eight years in prison yesterday...

Japan nuclear leak bigger than operator admitted

TOKYO (AP) - The amount of radiation released in an accident at a nuclear plant in northeastern Japan was 10 times higher than initially reported by authorities...

HUSSEIN

who headed the powerful intelligence bureau in the 1960s and early 1970s, to direct the investigation into the causes behind the shooting...

ARAFAT

"will isolate Jerusalem from the West Bank and sever northeast Jerusalem from southeast Jerusalem. It aims to build hotels there in preparation for Bethlehem's year 2000 events...

Clinton undergoes surgery

BETHESDA, Maryland (AP) - President Bill Clinton will hobble on crutches for weeks after surgery to repair a damaged leg, but he doesn't want the injury to affect foreign policy too much...



First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton visits President Clinton at Bethesda Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, yesterday.

Clinton would be on a non-narcotic painkiller for a time. The tear in Clinton's tendon was unusual, physicians said...

Clinton would be on a non-narcotic painkiller for a time. The tear in Clinton's tendon was unusual, physicians said...

operated on at Bethesda Naval Hospital in this Maryland suburb. The surgery was done under a spinal anesthesia, leaving the president conscious...

connects the upper thigh to the kneecap. "He remembers his right knee buckling out. He heard a very loud pop," said Navy Capt. Connie Mariano...

Murder charge in Cosby slaying

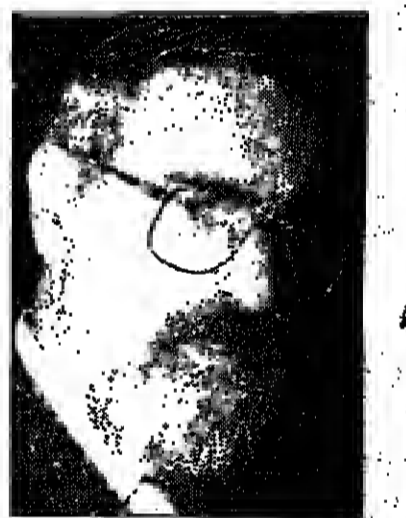
LOS ANGELES (AP) - Prosecutors filed a murder charge Friday against a young Russian immigrant in the shooting of comedian Bill Cosby's son and added a special allegation that could lead to the death penalty if he is convicted...

killed during an attempted robbery is a so-called "special circumstance" that, if upheld at trial, could allow prosecutors to seek the death penalty...

Markhasev was hired last month as a cashier. Arrested Wednesday at his North Hollywood apartment, Markhasev was in the custody of sheriff's deputies at the criminal court building...

UK chief rabbi fans Reform rift

LONDON (Reuter) - A leaked letter from Britain's chief rabbi attacking non-Orthodox Jews inflamed bitter divisions Friday in the country's Jewish community...



Jonathan Sacks

Australia anti-racism protest turns violent

MELBOURNE (Reuter) - An anti-racism protest in Australia turned ugly yesterday when demonstrators tried to break through a police barricade and storm a bookshop run by a right-wing group...

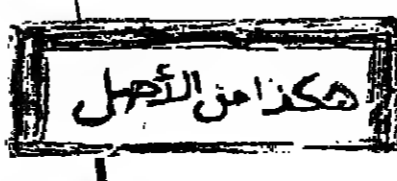
assault. Police were well prepared for the protest, deploying over 80 officers, including about a dozen on horseback, in case of trouble...

another outcry in 1995 when he denounced Conservative Jews as "intellectual thieves," appeared to be telling his right-wing critics that he was only publicly praising Hugo Gryn for political reasons...

ONE OF A KIND THE WINDMILL HOTEL JERUSALEM. There are many hotels in Jerusalem... But all agree we are second to none.

"Hope" The Jewel of Peace. Beautiful gifts FOR HIM and FOR HER - from the "Hope" collection by the Jerusalem artist Etayne Cohen-Ashby.

Oscar-winning director Zinnemann dies. LONDON (AP) - Fred Zinnemann, the Oscar-winning film director who dramatized issues of conscience in High Noon, A Man for All Seasons and Julia, has died.



Canadian MDs help heal Mideast wounds

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOWICH

Two neighbors had a fight decades ago and don't know how to make up. A third party gets the disputants interested in a subject that would benefit both of them, thereby eliminating the grudges, smoothing over sensitivities and healing the wounds.

ment at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem, Dr. Yebuda Roth of Wolfson; and Dr. Dan Fliss of Soroka. They were sent to Canada for two years to study advanced techniques not then known in Israel. When they returned, they instituted treatments and research here that would otherwise not have been possible.

CISEPO was founded in 1984 by Prof. Arnold Noyek, chief of otolaryngology at Mount Sinai Hospital in Toronto. It began as a bilateral program between Israel and Canada and specifically in promoting cooperation in the ear-nose-and-throat specialty, especially in dealing with cancer in these organs. But within two years, Noyek and his colleagues decided to expand CISEPO's agenda, and the Middle East peace process showed the direction for its growing interests.

Today, the problems and needs of physically and even mentally disabled children in the haredim community have emerged from the closet, and families stricken by such disorders have set up voluntary organizations to meet their unique needs.

Health Minister Yehoshua Matza met with Noyek and Aber during their visit here and strongly endorsed efforts to serve as a bridge between doctors in the region. "Israel can and should reach out to its neighbors and establish lasting partnerships that address common interests. Our organization can serve as an honest broker," Aber added.

Haredim care for their own

By JUDY SIEGEL-ITZKOWICH

Rochelle lies on a thick foam mattress surrounded by toys and waits for her turn with the physiotherapist. The only things that seem to move in this four-year-old with cerebral palsy are her eyes: her pupils dart constantly from one side to another, as if they were trying to escape from a body that doesn't work properly.

The sweet-looking child is one of 80 aged one to 13 who are being cared for at Tikvah Layed, a CP rehabilitation and special-education center in Jerusalem's Bayit Vegan quarter. It's the only such facility in the capital for children with CP from the haredim community - which for years tended to virtually hide such children in closets for fear that their mere existence would harm their siblings' chances for a good match for marriage.

Today, the problems and needs of physically and even mentally disabled children in the haredim community have emerged from the closet, and families stricken by such disorders have set up voluntary organizations to meet their unique needs.

side his shirt and black trousers tucked into long black socks - yet his openness and familiarity with medical conditions are incongruously modern. "I thought to myself: if I can take an inanimate piece of animal skin and mold it into boxes to hold tefillin parchment, then one could take a CP child, who has a soul, and help make him better."

Although Zvi found work in his vocation in New York, the Braiteins wanted to return to Jerusalem, but they could do so only if they had a suitable place for treating Yoel. He was enrolled in the rehabilitative kindergarten directed by the late pediatric neurologist Prof. Naomi Amir, and he progressed neurologically. But the parents felt uncomfortable that their son, who is a bright boy, didn't get the type of religious training they were accustomed to.

There are computers, special therapeutic equipment (including customized boots that hold the feet straight to stretch spastic hamstrings), electric wheelchairs and catered meals for the children, whose parents pay a nominal NIS 100 to NIS 150 a month for care.



A child with cerebral palsy is treated at Tikvah Layed.

come with emotion. "There were tears in their eyes, and at first, I was worried that something bad had happened. But I could see they were happy. They told me that one four-year-old boy, who had been undergoing physical therapy for 18 months, had taken his first step and begun to walk. This was just one reward for hard work."

Marvin Samuels, a New York philanthropist, serves as president of the organization, and Canadian businessman Albert Reichman is a member of the board. Esther Wolf heads the Israeli women's committee that helps support the organiza-

needs of haredim children with CP. No matter how much the family love them, CP children need a lot of help, and their progress is very slow. It's not like an orthopedic problem that you operate on and solve. Recovery is not complete.

"For resources, staff size and facilities, no institution dealing with the physically handicapped can compete with Jerusalem's Alyn Hospital, which is one of the best in the world. But for those haredim families that wanted a framework of their own, any organization that provides professional, high-level assistance in a way that makes parents comfortable is a boon."

In addition to Neveh Zvi, Tikvah Layed also supports the local production of children's wheelchairs and therapeutic workstations for free distribution to hospitals, institutions and private families. It also brings foreign medical experts here for training local doctors in the most advanced methods and operations; sponsors symposia, provides personal family counseling, organizes CP parent support groups and operates a broad volunteer program that directly helps parents function on a daily basis.

As it is, Tikvah Layed has a long waiting list, and could double or triple the number of youngsters if it had the facilities. It only now, received a donation to install an elevator in the building; until it is built, parents and therapists have to carry them up the stairs. "We dream of having a building of our own that's physically suited to the needs of the children," Braitein says.

HEALTH SCAN

Smoking in pregnancy increases risk of handicapped baby

By POST HEALTH REPORTER

If women don't yet have a good reason not to smoke during pregnancy, here's one: a study published recently in the prestigious journal *Pediatrics* found that the risk of having a mentally handicapped baby is at least 50 percent higher in women who smoked during pregnancy than those who didn't.

Dr. Alon Margalit of the family medicine department at Ben-Gurion University notes as an addendum to the article: "If this piece of research doesn't induce mothers to stop smoking, then what will?"



(Nissan Shorer)

FOUNTAIN OF YOUTH Aging skin can rehabilitate

itself, according to new research conducted at the Rapaport School of Medicine at the Haifa

Technion. But don't get your hopes up yet for a rejuvenation: it has been shown so far to work

only on mice. Dr. Amos Gilbar took skin from an elderly person and transplanted

it onto the body of a special variety of hairless mice which have a weak immune system and thus can't reject the transplanted tissue. Three months later, the transplanted patch regained its original thickness and looked like that of a youngster.

To check the results, Gilbar counted the number of melanocytes (pigment cells) in the skin, which decrease in number with aging due to exposure to the sun by about 8 percent every decade after the age of 20. He found the number of melanocytes in the transplanted skin was significantly higher.

The rejuvenation secret is apparently in the increase in the presence of cytokines, which are proteins that stimulate the renewal of skin.

As people get older, they have fewer cytokines, but when placed on a young animal, many of them were restored.

The Technion researcher says it's unlikely that the fountain of youth will be found in the near future, but he does believe that "science will discover the secret of aging - in the cells."

Rx FOR READERS

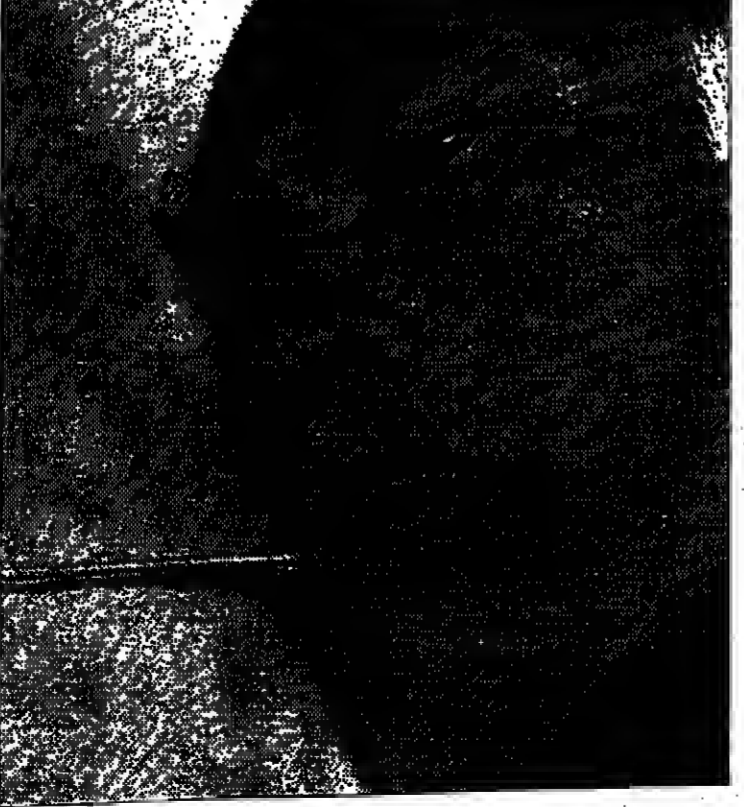
Digital thermometers can be as accurate as mercury type

By POST HEALTH REPORTER

Is a digital thermometer as accurate as a conventional mercury one? If so, why don't they use them in hospitals? D.R., Ashkelon. Dr. Avi Livnat, director of the medical device department at the Health Ministry in Jerusalem, replies:

There are many different types of digital thermometers, some of them very accurate and some less so. In general, the thermometer in the form of a pacifier is less accurate than that which measures temperature via the ear. In most cases, the variations are not in several degrees Celsius but in tenths of a degree.

Our department has checked some of them and has issued letters of approval to those that meet our standards. Consumers should ask the pharmacist to see the letter of ministry approval before buying. Unfortunately, we haven't examined all of them, as we are still waiting for the passage of a law that would require all medical equipment to be registered by my department before it can be imported and marketed.



(David Brauner)

Conventional thermometers with mercury are cheap and highly accurate; they don't break down except when they break into pieces. But your statement that digital thermometers are not used in hospitals is incorrect. Most neonatal departments use them on infants. Many have a cheap disposable tip so they don't even have to be sterilized. But

some hospitals don't use them because of the cost - and conservatism. If you see that a certain brand of digital thermometer is used in a hospital, you can be well assured that it is an accurate model.

What type of pillow is better for an asthmatic: down or synthetic? A.T., Beersheba. Prof. Meir Shalit, director of the Internal Medicine A Department at Hadassah-University Hospital in Jerusalem's Ein Kerem and an expert at the hospital's allergy and clinical immunology unit, answers:

Asthmatics who suffer from the type caused or worsened by allergies to the excrement of house-dust mites are advised to purchase special covers to their pillows, blankets and mattresses.

These mites, invisible to the human eye, live in rugs, pillows, mattresses and blankets. These special zippered covers, while expensive, can prevent the mites from colonizing. In general, there are fewer mites in synthetic pillows than in down pillows, but the special cover is highly recommended.

Such environmental control can significantly reduce asthma attacks in those patients allergic to dust mites. Not all doctors remember to give their patients this advice.

Does eating chicken skin have a harmful effect on one's blood-cholesterol level? E.E., Jerusalem. Rene Lipa, director of the nutrition and diet unit at the Rabin Medical Center-Beilinson Campus, replies:

Chicken skin adds considerably to the cholesterol, fat and caloric level of portions in which they are served. It is not necessary to remove the skin before cooking, unless you are cooking it with rice, potatoes or other vegetables that absorb the fat and from which it cannot be separated. When cooking chicken soup or gravies, it's easy to cool the liquid until the fat congeals and then remove it. If serving chicken whole, you should remove the skin before eating it. I recommend this as a preventive measure for healthy people with low cholesterol levels, and certainly to people with high levels who suffer from heart disease. Replacing part of the animal fat in one's diet with olive oil, avocado and olives is strongly recommended.

Rx For Readers welcomes queries from readers about medical problems. Experts will answer those we find most interesting, and replies will be printed in the twice-monthly column on the Health Page. Write Rx For Readers, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000, fax it to (02) 538-9527 or e-mail it to justie@post.co.il, giving your initials, age and place of residence. Phoned-in queries will not be accepted.

Jerusalem Post
Oscar-winning director Zinnemann dies

rabbi
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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Ramat Menashe, Jerusalem 91000...

JEFF BARAK, Editor; CARL SCHRAG, Managing Editor; AMOTZ ASA-EL, Associate Editor, Business

Hussein's condolence call

Today's visit here by Jordan's King Hussein is a reminder that in the Middle East, personal gestures are often as important as political decisions.

Lands in need of hope

Individual countries have their hopeless-case areas - inner cities, trailer-parks, ghettos of unabsorbed immigrants. Continents seem to have similar places and, in Europe, it must be the area known loosely as the Balkans.

off a new round of despondency in the region. While the government acted within the letter of the Oslo Accords in both cases, it ignored the spirit of the agreement in that it failed to even try to win the Palestinians' tacit agreement for these unilateral decisions.

democracy, who behave like South American generalissimos, and who think economics is the science of making politicians rich.



The geography of fear

For a country that claims to be in control, there are too many no-go areas, too many invisible lines we are afraid to cross.

There are too many no-go areas, too many invisible lines we are afraid to cross

gun or the stone would be completely unaware - and uninterested - in my political views.

Mob rule

The Jehovah's Witnesses are not easy people to get along with. I remember with distaste the way they stood on street corners in the US, trying to sell their magazine, Watchtower, and the way they went from house to house trying to convince people of their beliefs.

The true test of a democracy is not how it treats 'nice' minorities, but how it deals with the unpleasant ones

The perpetrators may have been unaware of the fact that Jehovah's Witnesses were one of the groups persecuted and sent to concentration camps in Nazi Germany.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POOR PARENTING Sir, - The widespread criticism of Sara Netanyahu, given her deliberate high profile, is inevitable.

CRIMINAL PROJECT Sir, - I was jubilant to read in The Jerusalem Post of March 10 that "Conservationists protest project off Bat Galim."

LAX ENFORCEMENT Sir, - I had occasion to visit Kaplan Hospital in Rehovot and witnessed some very disturbing things. Among them was a total disregard for the warning signs stating specifically, no smoking and no cellular phones allowed.

LOOK TO JERUSALEM Sir, - I have news for Shlomo Gazit. In "Jerusalem in the world's eyes" (March 3), he writes: "It won't be easy for 2.5 billion believers to hand over the keys of the city [Jerusalem] to a religion which constitutes only half a percent of all those who look to Jerusalem."

PERES CLONE Sir, - Why all the excitement over the cloning of sheep? We in Israel have a prime minister who is a clone of his predecessor. Of equal scientific interest, our prime minister is proof that an invertebrate can successfully pass for a man.

CENSURING HIM Sir, - Our Knesset should repudiate the remarks and behavior of MK Ze'evi to US Ambassador Indyk by passing a resolution censoring him.

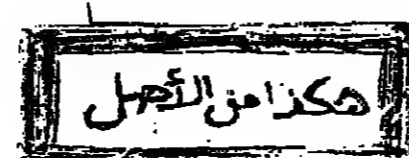
PICTURE POSTSCRIPT



Tanya swims with her pet shark in a pool in Warsaw. She plays with dangerous sharks to raise funds for research which, we're sure, the sharks appreciate very much.

POSTSCRIPTS

JOHN YOUNG is keeping a wary eye on traffic outside his Peoria, Illinois, home since his address mistakenly was publicized as that of a convicted sex offender.



ON CAMERA

Desert photography

By DAVID BRAUNER

The camera is no stranger to the desert. Within months of Daguerre's invention of photography in 1839, a French team headed out to the exotic and arid lands of the Middle East. Artist Horace Vernet and his technician nephew wrote home from Cairo: "We are daguerotyping like lions."

The most intrepid 19th-century desert photographer was Englishman Francis Frith. In 1856, he tackled the overheated wilderness regions of the Holy Land, the Sinai and Egypt, where he journeyed 2,415 kilometers up the Nile. At times, temperatures inside his horse-drawn darkroom reached 55 degrees Celsius. The extreme heat sometimes caused the wet collodion

emulsion to boil when Frith poured it on the glass plates. Looking at an 1857 Frith photograph of Mt. Sinai, one instantly recognizes the photographer's fascination with the mountain and the surrounding rocky plain. Since the last century, many nature, landscape and art photographers have found themselves drawn to the seemingly changeless drier

regions of the earth. Some, like Ansel Adams, Minor White and Elliot Porter, have devoted large portions of their oeuvre to the badlands of North America.

Here, where the 12,000 square kilometers of the Negev mountains and steppe cover about half of the country's area, it is little wonder that many of our finest photographers gravitate to the south of the country. Photographic books inspired by Israel's desert lands have been published by naturalist Dr. David Darom, nature photographer Shai Ginott, landscape artist Neil Folberg, and the late Gail Rubin, to mention but a few. Wadis, dunes and nomadic peoples have been the subjects of numerous exhibits. Springs and pools highlight artist-photographer Howard Clapsaddle's introspective "Pockets of Silence," currently on show at the Jerusalem Theater.

Perhaps for most of us, the Arava or the Negev is something to get through on the way to Eilat. At a casual glance, the view appears as empty, boring wasteland, devoid of anything worth stopping for. Yet, the desert is anything but, as I found out on a recent visit to Sede Boker and Mitzpe Ramon.

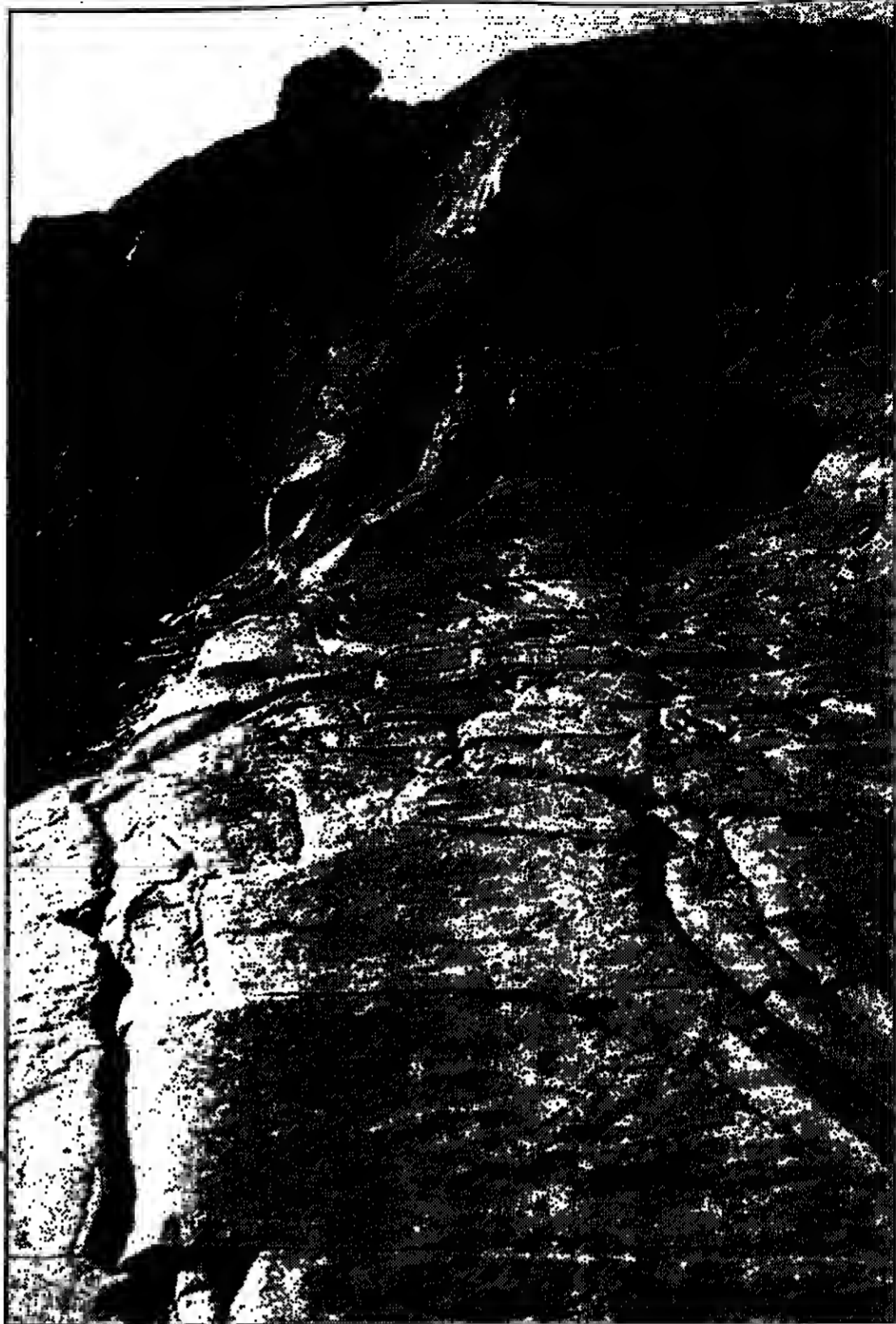
To know the desert, the photographer has to be close to it. That means walking, stopping, waiting and observing. You don't have to go far. Just follow a dry river bed, or one of the many marked trails. Winter is a good time, simply because there's water in the wadis and the sun isn't so sizzling hot. Soft, even afternoon light makes powerful pictures.

The desert is in many ways the ultimate challenge for the photographer. To begin with, its very vastness is a problem to convey. Not even the widest wide-angle lens can capture the richness of the space or the enormity of the silence that one experiences in the desert.

It is far better to take a minimalist approach. Train your eyes to see the small things that indicate the essence of the unforgiving landscape that they are a part of. As you walk along a wadi, you will notice huge boulders becoming loose scree, and slabs underfoot sculpted by thousands of years of seasonally flowing water. A twig growing out of a rock face, animal tracks, the lone acacia tree all make interesting subjects because they contrast survival with the inhospitable.

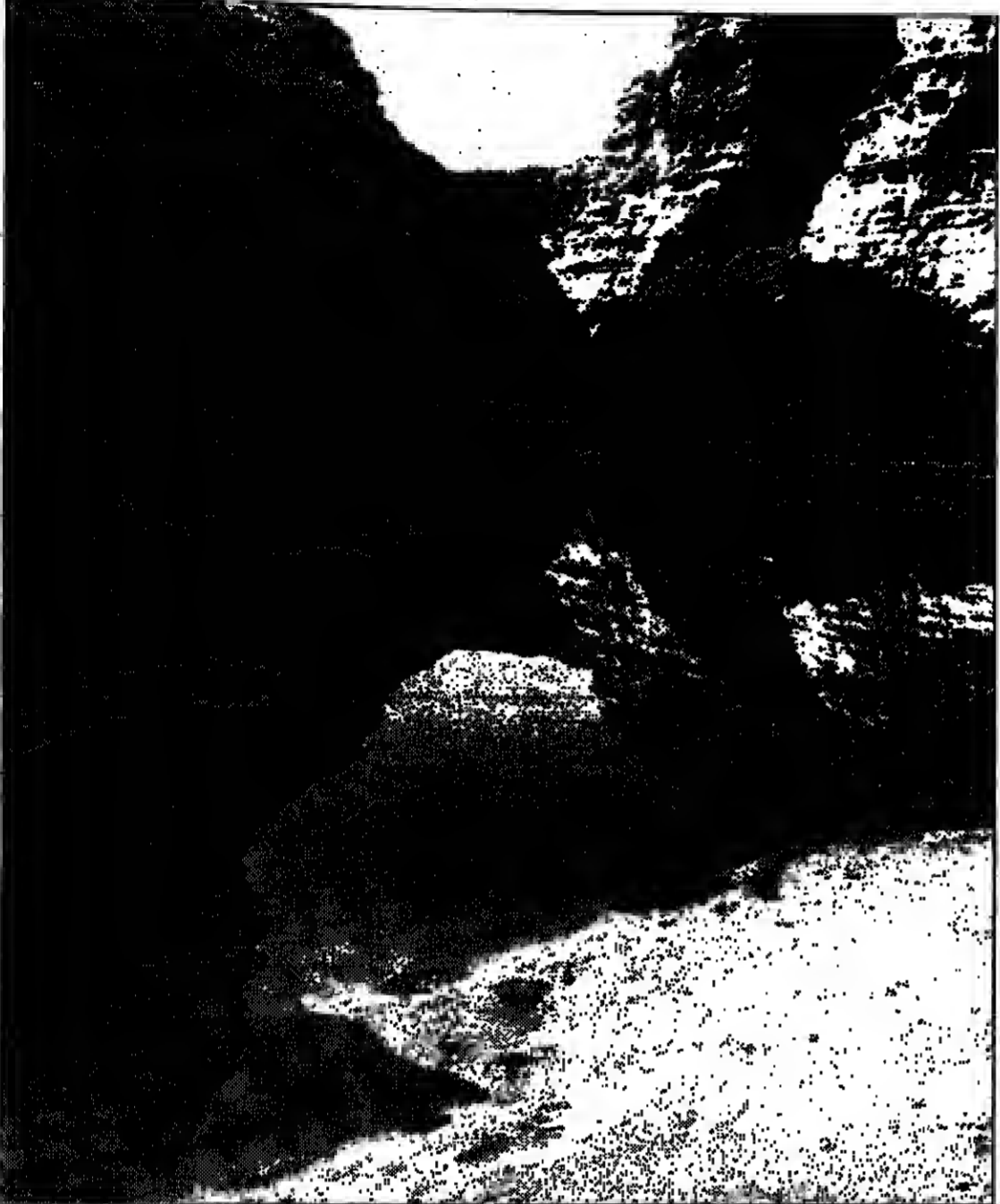
Don't be surprised to see animal life, especially near watering places at dawn and dusk. In the late afternoon we were surprised to find a head of Nubian ibex on a walk along the rim of the Ramon crater. These noble, long-horned wild goats were not camera shy.

For color workers, the desert offers a full palette. The rusts and yellows of the lichen patches growing on the rocks make fine studies. Or contrast



Sculpted rock in Nahal Zin in the late afternoon.

(David Brauner)



Reflection in a desert pool, Ein Avdat.

(David Brauner)

the wide, dark-green leaves of the lily-like asphodel spouting up like a fountain between red and gray rocks. Take advantage of the reflections of quiet pools to make "fold-out" mirror images.

In a few days of desert photography, I used my full range of equipment. The 28 mm. wide-angle lens

came in handy for landscapes and tight places. The 200 mm. telephoto lens served me well for getting closer to the ibex. A set of close-up filters for small flowers and fossils, and red filter was perfect for the dazzling sunsets. But with any camera, the desert is a great place to practice photography.

HEADS 'N' TAILS

All in the head... or the hormones

By DVORA BEN SHAUL

A reader writes: I was absolutely dumbfounded. I found a tiny kitten about two or three days old and was trying to feed and care for it. One morning the kitten was gone from its basket. I found it in the basket with our three-year-old cocker spaniel. She was nuzzling it and it was suckling from her. I checked, and she actually had milk in her teats. She has always had spots to prevent estrus and has never had puppies. How can one explain this?

Experiments have shown that some animals, and also human females, can lactate under the stimulus of parenting. One particular experiment actually showed that more than half of the women in the study who were all waiting to adopt babies that were to be born within two to three months were able, by concentration and massage, to induce lactation.

As for mammals, it's a problem because we know so little about their mental states. In most cases we anthropomorphize and attribute behavioral manifestations to situations that resemble them in humans. But whether these are the same states, we have no way of knowing.

As has happened every year since 1449, the gold and blue flags that usually decorate the cathedral in Dublin have been replaced by green pennants; and in the tiny village of Holmpatrick, the church and every house have been given a washable coat of emerald-green paint in honor of this special day. Throughout Ireland, pubs and restaurants are preparing for an occasion that is traditionally celebrated with an abundance of food and drink.

As Irish as the Blarney Stone

By DANIEL HOGVOY

Throughout the world there is probably not a man, woman or child of Irish descent who is not aware that tomorrow is St. Patrick's Day. This is, however, the first year that those in Israel will have a chance to take part in the festivities. In addition to a gala reception being hosted by the Irish ambassador in Herzliya Pituah, 12 local pubs are devoting a week or longer to the pleasures of Irish music and beverages.

As has happened every year since 1449, the gold and blue flags that usually decorate the cathedral in Dublin have been replaced by green pennants; and in the tiny village of Holmpatrick, the church and every house have been given a washable coat of emerald-green paint in honor of this special day. Throughout Ireland, pubs and restaurants are preparing for an occasion that is traditionally celebrated with an abundance of food and drink.

life was not so much in having towns and churches named for him but in converting heathens to Christianity. The fact that in 1982, Pope John XXIII issued a papal bull declaring that the great saint and his exploits were "more myths than realities" has not stopped Irishmen from accepting Patrick as their patron saint.

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ISRAELI SHARES IN NEW YORK

Table listing Israeli shares in New York with columns for stock name, last price, and change.

INTERNATIONAL SHARES

Table listing international shares in New York with columns for stock name, last price, and change.

NEW YORK

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WALL STREET REPORT

Stocks up on inflation data

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Stocks and bonds rose while the dollar was mixed on Friday as news of mild inflation eased Wall Street's fears about rising interest rates.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 56.57 points to 6,935.46, recouping about a third of Thursday's 160-point drop sparked by strong February US retail sales data that rekindled fears of inflation and higher interest rates.

The report cast doubt on forecasts that the Fed, the nation's central bank, will raise rates at its policy-making meeting on March 25.

The inflation-wary bond market welcomed the news. The benchmark 30-year Treasury rose 6/32, or 1/875 on a \$1,000 bond, reducing the yield to 6.94% from 6.96% at Thursday's close.

Despite the report, analysts said the Fed's next move on rates was an open question, noting Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan in recent comments focused on the need to quash future rather than current inflation risks.

But the severity of Thursday's sell-off, analysts said, meant the stock market had room to advance even without a clear green light on the interest rate front.

That sell-off was triggered by an unexpected surge in US retail sales.

While the rise suggested a surprisingly robust economy, analysts said the market's reaction was overblown.

"The data we saw yesterday didn't warrant a 160-point drop," said Philip Orlando, chief investment officer at Value Line Asset Management. "But a lot of that may have been people anticipating a sloppy FPI and we certainly didn't get that."

With the Fed didn't get that, a week meeting still more than a week away, analysts said the market was likely to remain volatile.

WALL STREET WEEK

Turbulence ahead as markets await Fed meeting

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Wall Street is in for another turbulent week as nervous investors try to gauge whether the Federal Reserve will raise interest rates this month.

The Fed's policy-making Federal Open Market Committee is to meet on March 25, and market players have been struggling to gain insight into Fed Chairman Alan Greenspan's thinking.

Adding to the volatile mix is the fact the Friday will see the "triple witching" expiration of S&P futures, stock options and index options, which traditionally makes for volatile trading.

Four components will be dropped from the Dow Jones industrial average as of tomorrow and be replaced by four stocks which are, on the whole, more volatile.

"We could have a pretty wild week. With triple-witching and such a wide divergence of opinions as to what the Fed will do, we could see some pretty big swings," said Roy Blumberg, chief investment strategist at Josephthal Lyon & Ross.

"Some people say that they are absolutely certain the Fed will tighten rates, others say that there is no justification for that to be found in the data."

Last week, the market responded to data on a day-to-day basis.

Thursday, the Dow tumbled 160.48 points, or 2.28 percent, to 6,878.89 on steeper-than-forecast February retail sales.

Friday, a drop in February producer prices, and industrial production and capacity use figures pointing to tame inflation, sent the average up 56.57 points, or 0.82%, to close at 6,935.46. For the week, it fell 65.43 points.

But analysts generally agreed that Friday's recovery was not impressive and for the most part was led by a narrow group of

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

Wall Street's rise lifts Europe

LONDON - The UK's leading FTSE 100 share index ended on a stronger note, tracking Wall Street higher after the latest US inflation figures eased fears of a near-term US interest rate hike.

The blue chip index, which spent most of the session struggling in negative territory, cleared the 4,400 hurdle late in the session and ended 26.6 points higher at 4,424.3, rising four points from Friday week.

German shares reverse course to close stronger than expected, quelling fears of an imminent rise in US interest rates.

The blue chip CAC-40 index finished up 13.52 points, or 0.51%, to 2,645.62, down 62.66 from last Friday.

ZURICH - Swiss shares ended firmer and near the day's high after storming back from a slide of nearly 100 points.

"It was the biggest counter-move I have ever seen," one trader said, adding that better-than-expected US data and a recovery on Wall Street were instrumental in the late rise.

The All-Share Swiss Performance Index (SPI) was up 12.27 points, or 0.42%, to 2,934.97, a drop of 3.47 from the seventh of March.

PARIS - French stocks closed higher on a sharper than expected fall in US producer prices that quelled fears of an imminent rise in US interest rates.

The blue chip CAC-40 index finished up 13.52 points, or 0.51%, to 2,645.62, down 62.66 from last Friday.

ZURICH - Swiss shares ended firmer and near the day's high after storming back from a slide of nearly 100 points.

CURRENCY REPORT

Dollar down after tame inflation casts doubt on rate hike

NEW YORK - The dollar fell against the German mark and was barely changed versus the Japanese yen on Friday after a surprisingly tame inflation report prompted doubts that the Federal Reserve will soon raise interest rates and traders took profits ahead of the weekend.

A Labor Department report showed the producer price index, a key barometer of inflationary pressures, declined in February by a greater amount than most Wall Street economists had expected.

Key Representative Rates

Table showing key representative rates for US Dollar, Sterling, and Mark.

NEW YORK MARKET INDEXES

Table showing New York market indexes including DJ Industrials, DJ Transp, DJ Utilities, etc.

OTHER MARKET INDEXES

Table showing other market indexes including FTSE 100, Nikkei, Hang Seng, etc.

DOLLAR CROSS-RATES (US)

Table showing dollar cross-rates for Pound, Deutsche, etc.

US COMMODITIES

Table showing US commodity prices for Cocoa, Coffee, etc.

LONDON COMMODITIES

Table showing London commodity prices for Gold, Silver, etc.

Advertisement for CommStock Trading Ltd. featuring a large graphic with the text 'PAC MED INVESTMENTS' and 'Reading between the lines... you have time for trading action until 11 PM.' The ad also includes contact information for the company and a small illustration of a person reading.

CRITIC'S CHOICE

ENGLISH THEATER

HELEN KAYE

Cain't say no to *Oklahoma!*, the Light Opera Group of the Negev (LOGON) production of Rodgers and Hammerstein's all-time great classic musical...

CLASSICAL MUSIC

MICHAEL AJZENSTADT

Christopher Wilkins leads the Haifa Symphony Orchestra in Elgar's *Enigma Variations* and Bach's Third Orchestral Suite...

TELEVISION

ELANA CHIPMAN

Tonight's Documentary Box (Channel 2, 11:20), features a film called *Na'ana Needs Lots of Water*. The film's thesis is that architecture was used as an instrument of political and social suppression...



Christopher Wilkins conducts Elgar and Bach in Haifa.

valley to pick *na'ana* (mint leaves) for her tea.

FILM

ADINA HOFFMAN

MARS ATTACKS! - Director Tim Burton's tongue-in-cheek tribute to sci-fi movies of the '50s has about it a darkly playful look and quick-skit sense of humor...

TV

CHANNEL 1

6:30 News flash 6:45 News in Arabic 7:00 Good Morning Israel

EDUCATIONAL TV

9:00 Herzl and Zionism 9:30 Destinos 9:00 Geography 9:20 Nature 9:30 English

MIDDLE EAST TV

10:30 Changed Lives 11:00 Lighthouse 11:30 Hour of Power 12:30 Central Message

CHANNEL 2

15:30 Motorcycles from Mars 15:50 Booty 16:00 Five on the Reel

CHANNEL 10

6:15 Today's Programs 8:30 Yogi Bear 8:35 This Morning

CHANNEL 11

6:15 Today's Programs 8:30 Yogi Bear 8:35 This Morning

CHANNEL 13

6:15 Today's Programs 8:30 Yogi Bear 8:35 This Morning

CHANNEL 14

6:15 Today's Programs 8:30 Yogi Bear 8:35 This Morning

CHANNEL 15

6:15 Today's Programs 8:30 Yogi Bear 8:35 This Morning

CHANNEL 16

6:15 Today's Programs 8:30 Yogi Bear 8:35 This Morning

CHANNEL 17

6:15 Today's Programs 8:30 Yogi Bear 8:35 This Morning

JORDAN TV

14:00 Holy Koran 14:05 Johnny Quest 14:30 Problem Child 15:00 French programs

MOVIE CHANNEL

11:30 Stoning in Fulham County (1993) 12:00 The Last Two

DISCOVERY

8:00 Open University 8:00 Great Escape 8:30 India Business Week

CHILDREN

6:30 Cartoons 8:00 Nils Holgerson 9:30 The Collector of Things

FAMILY CHANNEL

7:00 Lapidator (pt) 7:30 Love Story with Yossi Sivas

EUROSPORT

8:30 Equestrian: Volvo World Cup (pt) 10:30 Alpine Skiing

MOVIES

JERUSALEM CINEMATHEQUE Fargo 5 * Deliverance 7 * Bound 9:30 * Gangrene 9:30 G.G. Gil Jerusalem

6:25/278 Jerry Maguire 4:30, 7:15, 9:45 * The Crucible 5, 7:15, 9:45 * Screen 5, 7:30, 9:45 * People vs Larry Flynt 4:30

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PRIME TIME TV

Table with 8 columns (1-8) and 4 rows of TV programs including News, A Second Look, Personal Story, The Camera Quintet, World Soccer, etc.

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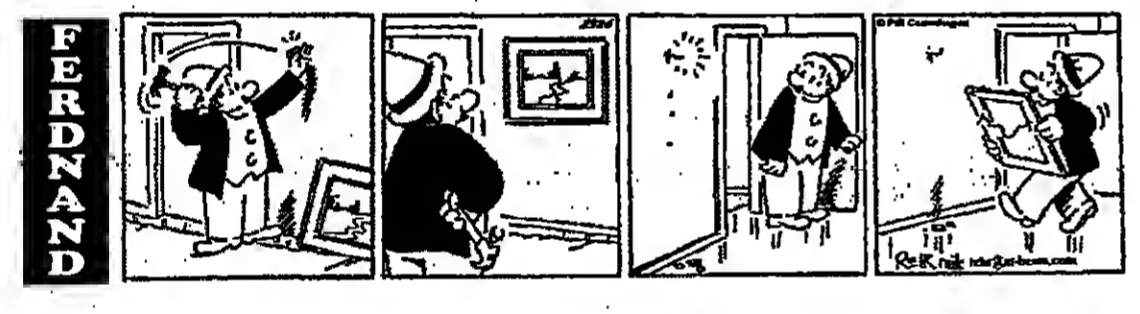
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CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

- ACROSS 1 Rank stuff a worker may produce (8) 5 Pass on some grim particulars (6) 9 Look at a range that's less Jewish (8) 10 Cruise's disastrous voyage (6) 12 Go off each and every player (6) 13 Rejected sweets but still put weight on (8) 15 Lower? Blow! (3,4) 16 Spot a little animal seldom seen (4) 20 Turn the record (4) 21 Robber group carrying equipment (7) 25 Get depressed when left suffering (8) 26 Damaging a green might well cause anger (6) 28 At home with a youngster with nothing, nothing more (2,4) 29 Being nice about plug falling off (8) 30 Companies have a point in supplying running water (6) 31 Copier salesman facing consumer (8) 7 A baron is involved in a scrape (8) 8 Row about crack made, being the more stylish (8) 11 Skinhead having to pay for room (7) 14 Send a note on what is to be worn (7) 17 Training that's really boring (8) 18 It's sea-food for the board, not hush (8) 19 Overrun in a French engagement (8) 22 Agitated sleuth's frenzied activity (6) 23 Like occupying the finest housing - or the worst (6) 24 Superior prunker (6) 27 A server of drinks entered in the beauty contest (4)

Crossword puzzle grid with solutions and clues.

QUICK CROSSWORD section with clues and grid.

NEWS in brief

Prisoners of Zion to be commended

Former Prisoners of Zion, and those who were killed due to their Zionist activities, will be honored in a ceremony at the Knesset today.

Report: Deri plans to leave political life

Shas leader Aryeh Deri has been making plans to leave political life after the investigation into the Bar-On Affair is completed.

In the letter, the contents of which were revealed on the channel's Friday Studio program, Kadourie writes he had heard of Deri's intentions to retire as head of Shas and pursue Torah study and business projects.

"You cannot do these things," the report quoted Kadourie as saying. "I call loudly on [you], Rabbi Deri, in fact, I command you, to retract this [decision]."

1 killed, 9 injured on roads

A man was killed and nine people were injured, one seriously, in road accidents over the weekend.

A 77-year-old man suffered heart failure while he was driving in Petah Tikva and his car hit three other cars. He was declared dead at Sharon Hospital.

Heavy snow falls on Mt. Hermon

Heavy snow fell on Mt. Hermon over the weekend, adding another layer of white to the slopes of the ski site.

The weather bureau reported that more snow is likely on the northern peak, with rain, accompanied by strong winds and some thunderstorms, in other parts of the country in the coming days.

Winning Cards

The winning cards in Friday's Mifal Hapayis Chance draw were the seven of spades, 10 of hearts, jack of diamonds and king of clubs.

Conference addresses Diaspora-Israel relationship

By URIEL HEILMAN

Responding to the criticism heaped upon current relations between Israel and the Diaspora by his colleagues, executive director of the Peres Institute for Peace Uri Savir asserted last week that "secular American Jews have more connection with their tradition than the Jews of Israel."

Savir was speaking at the two-day 1997 Annual Conference on Public Administration, which brought together a variety of public officials to discuss issues of import to the Israeli community, among them the changing face of Israel-Diaspora relations.

Savir said that his Jewish identity developed from his relationship with Diaspora Jews.

"They may not be very interested in Israeli society," he said referring to his Diaspora counterparts, "but we have even less interest in what is going on there."

New Yorkers lament Kiryat Yam mayor not suitable for post

By MARILYN HENRY

NEW YORK - New York, which only reluctantly conceded that Israel - not the Big Apple - may be the center of the Jewish world, had been put off by Jerusalem's delay in appointing a new consul-general and now seems offended by the candidate who was finally named.

"Is it too much to ask for Israeli representatives here who can speak fluent English and whose credentials extend further than a political friendship with David Levy?" Gary Rosenblatt, editor and publisher of The New York Jewish Week, wrote in Friday's edition.

Rosenblatt's column was the first significant, public reaction to the word that Sbmuel Siso of Kiryat Yam would replace Colette Avital at the consulate in New York.

Siso, for New Yorkers, is the unknown mayor of a town that most could not locate on the map. He is also the choice of Foreign Minister Levy, who himself is a virtual mystery man in the American Jewish community.

As the media, cultural, financial, and Jewish capital of the US, New York reckoned itself to be a post that the Diaspora-

Uproar over Dotan's early release from prison

By ARREN O'SULLIVAN

The Movement for Quality Government is demanding a reversal of last Thursday's decision to release Rami Dotan, a former senior IAF procurement officer who embezzled millions of dollars, after he has served only half his sentence, saying his release would demonstrate that not all are equal under the law.

A military committee decided to release the former brigadier-general on April 21, even though he will have served only half his 13-year sentence.

General Electric for jet engine improvement work in Israel. Dotan took some \$10 million in an affair that rocked the air force and defense industries.

The committee did put restrictions on Dotan as a condition of his release: Dotan must keep secret any classified information he may remember, and is forbidden to travel abroad.

The Movement for Quality Government has sent letters to IDF Judge Advocate-General

Brig.-Gen. Uri Shoham and Attorney-General Elyakim Rubinstein, demanding that the decision be reversed.

"This is setting a grave precedent that not only abrogates the principle that all are equal in the eyes of the law, but also does little to deter white-collar crime," said Dorit Basman, spokesman for the movement.

"If our letters are not given the proper consideration then we may turn to the High Court of Justice."

Hadash protests policies in Nazareth

By DAVID RUDGE

More than 1,500 people marched through Nazareth's main street yesterday in a demonstration organized by the Democratic Front for Peace and Equality (Hadash) to protest the government's policies and to "save the peace process."

The demonstration followed the decision by Israeli-Arab leaders at the end of last week to call a general strike of the entire Arab sector on Land Day (March 30) to protest the government's "settlement policies."

The parade in Nazareth yesterday, which was licensed by police, passed peacefully and was followed by a rally at the city's Friendship House with the participation of Hadash MKs and local council heads. Towards the end, however, several bottles were thrown at police on duty in the area.

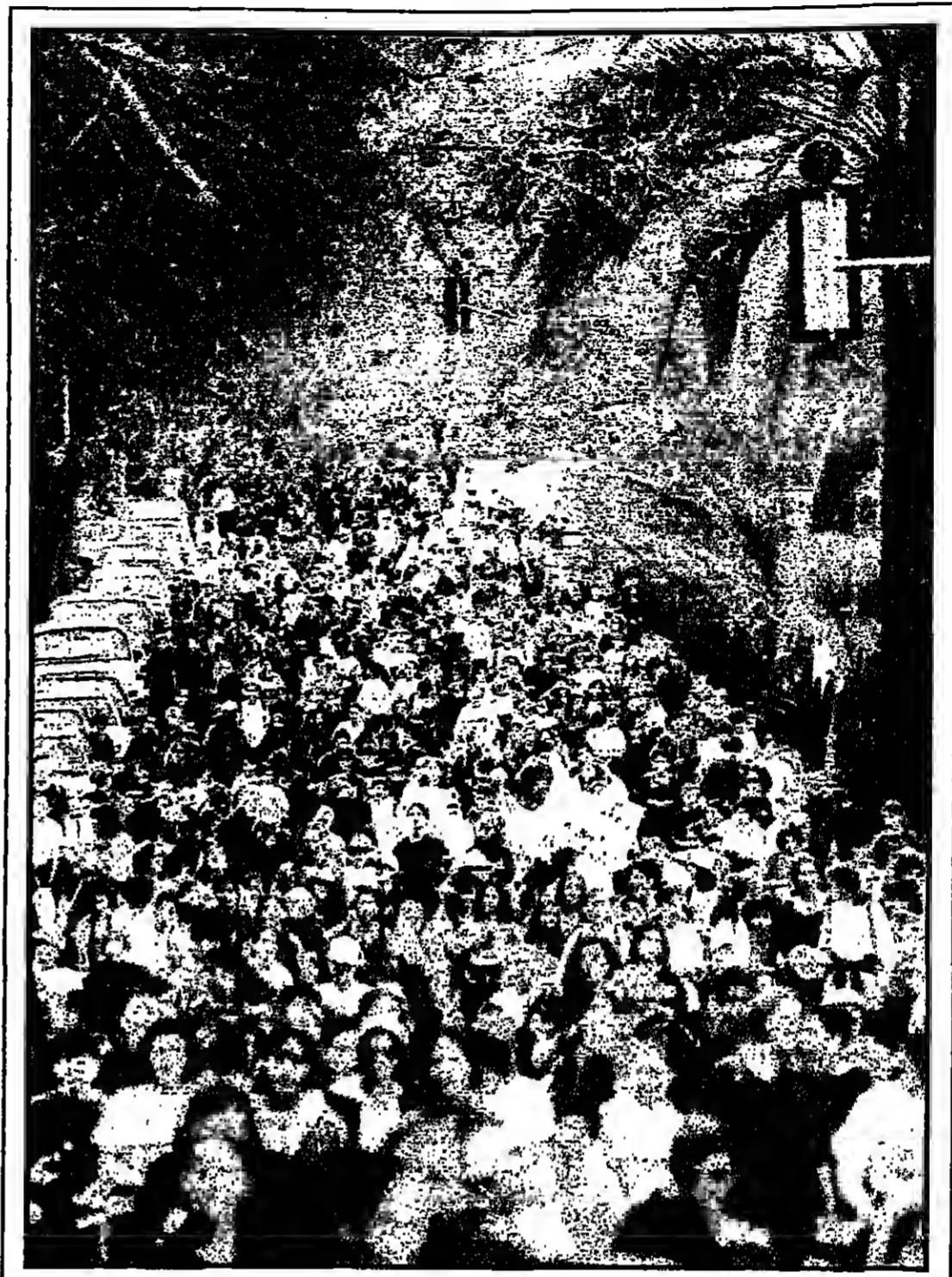
The decision to call a general strike on Land Day was taken at a meeting, in Rahat in the Negev last Thursday, of the Israeli-Arab leadership's monitoring committee, composed of the 53 Arab council heads, MKs and leading public figures.

It will be the first time in many years that Land Day will be marked by a general strike and rallies instead of picnics and a holiday-like atmosphere.

"The decision was taken in light of everything that has happened recently and as a form of protest against the government's policies," said Hussein Suleiman, spokesman for the forum of Arab Council Heads.

It also was decided at the meeting to hold rallies and ceremonies in the Negev and in Galilee on Land Day, which marks the 21st anniversary of the first demonstrations in 1976 to protest against the expropriation of Arab-owned land.

Suleiman, who is also head of Mash had local council near Nazareth, said the decision to call a general strike was in protest over the government's decision to build on Har Homa, as well as "continuing excavations under al-Aksa and the expropriation of land in the Negev."



The last lap? Runners in the Tel Aviv [half] Marathon clog the city's streets Friday. After the race Mayor Ronni Milo told organizers there would be no more marathons in Tel Aviv, due to the economic damage and nuisance it causes the city and its residents.

WEATHER section with a map of Israel and weather forecasts for various cities like Haifa, Tiberias, Afula, Samaria, Jerusalem, Beer-sheva, and Dead Sea.

Table titled 'AROUND THE WORLD' showing weather forecasts for various international cities like Amsterdam, Cairo, Chicago, Hong Kong, etc.

MDA to hold warning strike tomorrow

By JUDY SEGEL

Magen David Adom staff will hold a one-hour warning strike from noon to 1 p.m. tomorrow - with ambulance station personnel refusing to answer calls for help - unless their demands for additional staff and duty pay are met.

The strike is set to coincide with the opening of MDA's national convention.

Workers at the first-aid, ambulance, and blood-supply organization have been begging for the last five years for a medic to accompany ambulance drivers, since when out on a call, drivers have to worry about traffic while the patient is alone in the back.

The Treasury has so far refused these demands, even though Fire and Rescue Service workers do receive this additional pay.

Health Minister Yehoshua Mazza said last week that he would bring together officials from the two ministries to discuss the crisis tomorrow morning, before the warning strike.

If the strike takes place, those needing emergency help will have to find another way to reach the hospital or an ambulance station during that hour.

BUY BLUE + WHITE advertisement with a stylized logo.

The Big Book of Pasta advertisement featuring a pasta dish image and a coupon for a book.

JEWISH THOUGHT section featuring book advertisements for 'Sambatyon Essays on Jewish Holidays' and 'Judaism A-Z'.

